



PRESS RELEASE

U.S. Embassy, Seoul, Korea

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April 21, 2005

05-18

U.S. Embassy Celebrates Global Youth Service Day

The U.S. Embassy will celebrate **Global Youth Service Day** on Friday, April 22 at 9:30 a.m. with a digital video conference linking Seoul, Daegu and Gwangju with keynote speaker Gregory Smith, 15, of the University of Virginia, and panel discussants.

Locations will be the Information Resource Center at Namyoung-dong, Seoul, and the American Corners in Daegu and Gwangju.

This event is part of the **U.S. Embassy Holiday Series**, a new program in 2005. To celebrate American holidays and other special events, the Public Affairs Section schedules Open House events and invites college and high school students and other youth groups. Events take place at the Information Resource Center in Seoul and American Corners in Busan, Daegu, and/or Gwangju. These programs include digital video conferences (DVCs), question and answer sessions with prominent American scholars or experts, DVD viewings and open discussions.

For the event on **April 22**, the speaker will be fifteen year-old Gregory Smith, founder of International Youth Advocates. Gregory is a Phi Beta Kappa College Graduate, a PhD candidate in Mathematics at the University of Virginia and a 2004 Nobel Peace Prize Nominee. He travels globally speaking about the needs of the world's children, and has visited nine different countries, four continents and traveled extensively in the USA. An advocate for peace through education and peaceful parenting, he has organized humanitarian aid projects for East Timor orphans and for youth in Sao Paulo, Brazil, and is helping build the first public library in Rwanda and Peace Schools in Kenya and other conflict regions. Mr. Smith will speak about the importance of youth leadership and volunteerism for today's students and young people around the world.

Panel Discussants are:

Professor KIM Min of Soonchunhyang University

Ms. SON Min Young, Youth Exchange Specialist at Ministry of Culture and Tourism

Ms. Magdalena J. SEOL, 2004 Graduate of Seoul National University

Ms. Ann KIM, Political Officer at U.S. Embassy Seoul

Media, individuals or organizations who want to attend this open house program should contact the following staff in advance:

Seoul: PARK Hee Yeon, Tel: (02)-397-4605

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Daegu: Mr. Jo Chang Ho Tel: (053) 420-2726

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For future programs at the Busan American Corner, please contact:

Busan: Ms. Nam Hyun Young Tel: (051) 802-5326 (ext.3)

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**2005 U.S. Embassy
Public Open House Program Schedule**

Date of Open House Event	Title and Dates of Celebration
April 22	Global Youth Service Day (4/15-17)
May 27	Memorial Day (5/30)
July 1	Independence Day (7/4)
August 26	Women's Equality Day (8/26) – August 26
November 23 (combined event)	Thanksgiving Day (11/24)
	International Education Week (11/14-19)
December 2	World AIDS Day (12/1)

Programs normally begin at 9:30 a.m. and run until 1:00 or 3:00 p.m.